GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1343
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
CONTAMINATION IN MILK
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the high level of contamination that is taking place in milk largely due to germs;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to free cattle from germs and stop contamination of milk; and

(c) the steps taken to create disease free zones of cattle to improve the health of national milk herd?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): No Sir.

(b): Even though no contamination is reported, Government of India provides financial assistance to States and Union Territories to screen cattle and buffaloes for tuberculosis and brucellosis, the causative organisms of which may come in the milk of the affected animal. Further, pasteurization of milk is done primarily to eliminate any pathogenic organism which may be present in the milk either from an unhealthy animal or present as a contaminant during or after milking.

(c): The Department has decided to create initially three Disease Free Zones covering the States of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Western Uttar Pradesh(Zone-I), Gujarat (Zone-II), and the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh (Zone-III).